

Today's Topics:

CONFAB '89
How to use the incoming QSL bureau?
Letter from the FCC: 20M Maritime Mobile Net
Magnetic effects
Questions about UK
starter shortwave radios ...
Unknown satellite on 432.875

Date: 9 Nov 89 21:33:09 GMT

From: aramis.rutgers.edu!porthos.rutgers.edu!

jschwart%hardees.rutgers.edu@rutgers.edu (Jeff Schwartz)

Subject: CONFAB '89

CONFAB '89

The 1989 Traffic Handler's Confab will be held at Rutgers University at the Busch Campus Center in Piscataway, New Jersey on Saturday, December 2nd from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M. Admission is free.

For those who don't know, I will quote David L. Wiesen -K2VX

Tentative agenda items: VHF nets and recognition of those involved, net manager reports, certificates and awards, recruiting and training, scanner law, and the Bulletin.

The confab is the annual conference of those involved in amateur radio traffic handling in the state of New Jersey.

Directions to the Busch Campus Center:

* from route 18

Follow rt. 18 North until it ends. You will be at a traffic light. Go straight through the light (you are now on Metlars lane). Make the third left off of Metlar's Lane. You are now on Bevier Rd. Follow this road until it intersects with Bartholomew. Make a right on to Bartholomew and you will see the Busch Campus Center ahead of you on the left. Turn into either lot #51 or #59.

>From Route 1

Take route 1 to route 18 North (New Brunswick Exit). Then follow from * above.

>From the New Jersey Turnpike

Take the Turnpike to exit 9 (New Brunswick). Follow signs to

Route 18 North. Follow from * above.

>From The Garden State Parkway

Take the GSP to exit 130 (Route 1). Take Route 1 South to Route 18 North and follow from * above.

P L E A S E N O T E: Parking has been arranged for lots 51 and 59 ONLY. Parking in any other lot may lead to a ticket or tow.

If you have any further questions, I can be contacted at:

Jeffrey A. Schwartz - KA2QOU
RPO 6129 Box 5063
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903
(201) 878-2340

or

jschwartz@hardees.rutgers.edu

Talk in will be on 145.700 Simplex.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Confab!

73's

Jeff - KA2QOU
Rutgers Amateur Radio Club.

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jschwartz@hardees.rutgers.edu -Jeff
Amateur Call: KA2QOU

Jeff Schwartz
RPO 6129 Box 5063
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903
(201) 878-2340

Date: 7 Nov 89 21:00:57 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!usc!henry.jpl.nasa.gov!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!peregrine!
ccicpg!cci632!dvh@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (David Hallidy)
Subject: How to use the incoming QSL bureau?

In article <338@hfsi.UUCP>, bower@hfsi.UUCP (Michael Bower Comm.) writes:
> NO, NO, NO!!!!

>

> If you are expecting cards, fine. If you are sending an envelope
> "just in case", DON'T DO IT! I, as a sorter, do NOT want envelopes
> from every N4TOM, D1CK, and H4RRy. That leads to storage problems
> and makes sorting much slower. Only if you are expecting cards, please!

While this may be your opinion (and maybe even that of the W4 bureau), it is certainly NOT the opinion of the ARRL. Many DX stations QSL routine QSO's via the bureau and the casual operator, who works a few every once in a while, has no way of ever getting his few cards that come to the bureau, IF HE DOESN'T KEEP AN ENVELOPE ON FILE. You guys (I say you because I'm not the "5R" manager anymore) aren't happy when somebody DOESN'T keep anything on file either- you complain when you have to throw away cards. But you surely shouldn't be expected to send a postcard or letter to a ham to let him know he has some cards in the slot. So... the only solution is for EVERYONE who EVER works ANY DX to at least keep one envelope on file. It's really not that big a deal. If a guy doesn't get anything in a year or two, he probably won't even remember he had an envelope on file, and the postage rates will have changed, so you chuck it then. :^)

Besides- while I haven't worked any DX in several years, I continue to get cards for contests and QSO's from 1983-1985 and I'm sure the W5 bureau appreciates the fact that they can send 'em instead of giving 'em the old heave-ho after they've sat around for months, taking up more space than my measly envelope.

Just my 2 cents.

73 Dave KD5RO

Date: 9 Nov 89 21:00:55 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!usc!gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!ctrsol!emory!stiatl!rsiatl!
jgd@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (John G. De Armond)

Subject: Letter from the FCC: 20M Maritime Mobile Net

In article <2514@wyse.wyse.com> steview@wyse.UUCP (Steve Wilson xttemp dept303) writes:

>>I suspect that the obvious is being acknowledged. That the technology
>>now exists for most organizations to handle their own emergency
>>communications. Consider portable earth stations, for example. And
>>that in the big picture, the ham contribution is pretty small and

>>getting smaller as alternative communications resources become
>>available.
>>
>
>
>I've got a real problem with this point of view. I've just come off
>a week stint of providing emergency service to several agencies. The
>thing you guys keep forgetting is that a disaster by definition is
>when all of your normal capabilities in what ever capacity are
>BROKEN/EXCEEDED. Hams have in the past, and are currently providing
>the required communications capability when the normal circuits
>aren't enough, or circuit requirements come into being spontaneously.
>

But you missed the whole point of my posting. Sure hams do some good in emergencies. But as an emergency manager, I have to look at both sides of the issue.

Until recently, I was the radiation safety officer for a large area of east Tennessee. I also served as Chief, Communications for the Bradley County Emergency Management Agency. In this latter role, my charter was to examine the communications needs of the agency and plan and implement a system to address those needs. This plan encompassed all communications systems we needed to interface with, from liaison with the police and fire departments to our link into the statewide trunk to Amateur Radio.

Quite frankly, when I started the job, the ham effort was worse than useless. I remember a tornado drill shortly after I took over. We had a very nice, state of the art comm center with booths for each agency's dispatcher and a master control console. There was a booth for the Amateurs. The center is emergency power equipped, and is designed to withstand a New Madrid-scale earthquake. In short, very nice.

The drill was well underway when the amateur crowd showed up. The slob that showed up (and I use that term very descriptively) was unfortunately the stereotypical image of the dork ham. Here he comes amid a loud flourish, toteing a double armful of antique equipment. His first act was to erect this huge ARES placard in the middle of the floor announcing that Ham Radio had Arrived. Quite inappropriate in a Comm Center. He spends the next 2 hours getting the stuff to make a noise, which it then did continuously. As he pulls up a chair in the middle of the room, he announces that he is ready to accept "traffic". What kind of traffic or to whom, he had no idea. The attitude was "I'm here. I don't know what's going on nor do I care. So honor me with some messages." When someone would try to use him, he'd insist that the "traffic" be in the form of an NTS traffic item, filled out on those damn yellow forms. And if some official needed to talk to a field person, he insisted on respeaking the message rather than just giving the mic to the person. Hardly appropriate in a tactical environment.

This went on for awhile and then the Director asked him to vacate the Comm Center in order to reduce the noise. This vacate order was permanent. They were given space in a storage closet away from the operations area. Thus, they became the first group to be booted out of the Comm center, a fate not shared even by the CB REACT group.

Well, to make a long story short, this event spurred myself and a few others to organize a non-ARES amateur communications squad within the emergency management group. These hams cross trained in a variety of emergency-related skills. For example, I trained hams to be Radiation Monitors. It made much more sense for ONE person who could make radiation readings AND radio the results back to enter a hot area rather than send a radiation monitor AND a ham in. We received significant recognition from both TEMA and FEMA. As far as I know, the group is still functioning.

What I'm getting around to saying is that ham radio had little to do with the success of the program. I could just as easily have the squad operating on a CD channel with commercial gear. It is quite common for rescue squad members to buy their own commercial H-Ts.

In terms of long distance communications, I had a Collins station in the Comm center tuned to military and civilian emergency management frequencies. I also had a satellite link to TEMA and FEMA networks. I could have had, just for the asking, man-portable tactical satellite sets like the military uses.

The point is that I could have gotten along well without the amateur frequencies. It seems nice to have operators available who know how to push a PTT button but the knowledge of tactical communications in many hams ends there. And many would refuse to learn any better. We had a state training officer in one time to teach a class on tactical communications and dispatching. 2 people showed up.

Now lets suppose the FCC, still smarting from the No-code and 220 controversies, become openly hostile toward Amateur radio. So they decide to find alternative means to accomplish what had traditionally been the ham's role in emergency service. Further, let's stretch this scenario a bit further and say that they decide to take a business approach to the problem. They could take all the ham frequencies below 1 GHz and lease commercial channels. The revenue is then used to buy communications equipment for local government use in emergencies. I'm sure that a \$300 portable satellite communications station could be supplied to the government given enough volume. It has been done before. Next, volunteers are recruited and trained to use the equipment in an emergency. The incentive is that the individual gets to keep the equipment and use it even in normal times. And if it breaks, he simply turns it in for a replacement. Now we have commercially equipped

volunteer communicators and we've released multiple millions of dollars of spectrum to the commercial interests. Pretty good plan.

Far fetched? Well consider that many european countries do the same thing with weapons for the civilian armies. Or that this very thing is done with turnout gear for volunteer firemen and rescue squad members. With the budget problems, there could be great incentive to eliminate the "problem" of amateur radio and all the squabbling.

>From my perspective as a communications officer, I could easily support the program. After all, the major thing most local government agencies see from the ham population is someone approaching with his hand out! The hams want you to buy them repeaters (which we've done). They want special site consideration (which they get) such as reduced or free rent. They want us to buy radios to be put at "key player" residences (which we have NOT done). So if I'm going to spend this money, why not just buy radios that operate on our EMA frequencies so that any volunteer can use them?

I'm obviously playing devil's advocate in the above text. I hope the service can straighten out its act. We have to face the reality that what we do in emergency service, important as it is, is a drop in the bucket. We are grossly failing at our other charters of building international good will (remind me again how a pileup of California Kilowatt stations builds good will), training a reserve of operators (other than appliance) or advancing the state of the art (other than a TINY minority). We could fix the goodwill aspect with only a change of mind. The other problems are much harder.

So the biggest things we have going for us now is tradition and inertia. Both of these things are best maintained by total silence. Things like the 20 meter squabble only remind the FCC that some longterm problems in Amateur radio should be addressed. We're going to learn that lesson yet again, I'm afraid.

So what's the solution? Well there may not be solutions to some of the immediate problems - it may have already gone too far. We could do some other things, though.

First off, cut the shit on 20 meters. We need to stay OUT of the attention of the FCC. Second, we need to look closely at the needs of those who could use our services.

A prime example is what the local ham club did here in Marietta for SET. Rather than play contest for SET, the club made arrangements to work with the city and county police agencies such that the club set up a parallel dispatch network for the police. A ham rode in each police car that participated. Another ham set up at the dispatch center. Each piece of

traffic was handled in parallel by the police and the ham dispatcher.
The drill was TREMENDOUSLY successful. A large number of important
government officials got to see ham radio at its finest.

I hope we can get it together before it's too late. I do enjoy ham radio
and hope that in my retirement, I will have a frequency or 2 below light
on which to communicate.

John

--

John De Armond, WD40QC	Manual? ... What manual ?!?
Radiation Systems, Inc.	This is Unix, My son, You
emory!rsiatl!jgd	just GOTTA Know!!!

Atlanta, GA **I am the NRA**

Date: 9 Nov 89 23:41:59 GMT
From: osu-20.ircc.ohio-state.edu!bertsch-s@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Steve Bertsch)
Subject: Magnetic effects

I just read a posting by Bill, KB3YV looking for info on the effects
of magnetic fields on humans. Since my outgoing mail bounces so often
I thought I'd post the reply here.

A very good book on the subject is:

The body electric: electromagnetism and the foundation of life.
-by- Robert O. Becker and Gary Selden.

I found this in my local public library. One point that stood out
from the authors research was that low frequency (60 Hz) fields
were far more dangerous than HF thru Microwave (at the same energy
level).

Steve N8KWV

Date: 9 Nov 89 19:27:35 GMT
From: fe2o3!michael@mimsy.umd.edu (Michael Katzmann)
Subject: Questions about UK

In article <5621@lindy.Stanford.EDU> kevin@lindy.Stanford.EDU (Kevin J. Burnett)
writes:

>
>I am going to be in the UK soon, and am interesting in knowing a few things.
>Can someone tell me what the procedure would be for getting a reciprocal

>permit? Would I be able to get it from the Consulate in San Francisco, or
 >would I need to write to Washington? Also, how long would it take?
 >
 >Also, is there someone who could give me any information about clubs in the
 >London area?
 >
 >And, finally; what exactly is the difference between the
 >Icom IC-4AT (US version) and the IC-4E (European version)?
 >

The U.K. Department of Trade and Industry handles radio licences in the U.K.
 Their address is:

Department of Trade and Industry,
 Amateur Radio Licencing,
 Waterloo Bridge House,
 Waterloo Road,
 London SE1 8UA.

Licence fees are collected by the Post Office:

Post Office Headquarters,
 FA3.4RALU
 Chetwynd House,
 CHESTERFIELD
 Derbyshire S49 1PF

I wrote to them with a copy of my licence and certificate of proficiency
 (what you get when you pass the Australian amateur exam). They issued me
 with a class A U.K. Licence not a permit! I presume they have permits,
 or have them now (I got my UK licence in 82) which would be much
 cheaper than the annual licence fee of 12 pounds. One BIG advantage of
 a licence rather than a permit is that you can use it throughout Europe
 (if you are travelling) because the U.K. is a member of C.E.P.T..

 email to

UUCP: uunet!mimsy!{arinc,fe203}!vk2bea!michael

Amateur		VK2BEA	(Australia)	')))	- /	//
Radio		G4NYV	(United Kingdom)	/ / / o	._ / _	__ . _ //
Stations		NV3Z	(United States)	/ ' (_ < (_ _ /	/ _ (_ / _ < / _ < / _	

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BTW, the last time I heard from Mr. Mark Severance he was working for either NASA or one of the big NASA contractors on satellite design. Does anyone out there know of Mark, or know if he has a net address? I would like to get in touch with him. Thanx in advance....

Neal

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #861
